

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of inhibitors of the interaction between HIV-1 TAT protein and HIV-1 gp 120~~ A method for inhibiting the entry of HIV-1 into a host cell comprising contacting said cell with an inhibitor of the interaction between HIV-1 TAT protein and HIV-1 gp 120.
2. (Currently Amended) Use A method of claim 1, wherein the inhibitor binds to TAT.
3. (Currently Amended) Use A method of claim 2, wherein the inhibitor is a peptide.
4. (Currently Amended) Use A method of claim 3, wherein the peptide is homologous to the gp 120 V1/V2 region.
5. (Currently Amended) Use A method of claim 3, wherein the peptide is selected from:
  - (a) CTVECYFNCTPTC (SEQ ID No. 2)
  - (b) CPDRKKKVVMVC (SEQ ID No. 3)
  - (c) CSFNITTEIRDKVKK (SEQ ID No. 127)
  - (d) a peptide comprising at least 5 contiguous amino acids from a peptide, selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) - (c),
  - (e) a peptide which has a sequence identity of at least 80 % to the amino acid sequence of a peptide selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) - (d).
6. (Currently Amended) Use A method of claim 3, wherein the peptide is selected from:
  - (a) RDKKKK (SEQ ID No. 40),
  - (b) RDKKKQ (SEQ ID No. 41),
  - (c) RDKKKV (SEQ ID No. 42),

- (d) RNKRKQ (SEQ ID No. 51),
  - (e) RDKTQK (SEQ ID No. 52),
  - (f) DRKKKV (SEQ ID No. 43),
  - (g) KDKKEK (SEQ ID No. 45),
  - (h) RDKQQK (SEQ ID No. 49),
  - (i) RDKVQK (SEQ ID No. 50),
  - (j) CSFNIT (SEQ ID No. 4),
  - (k) RDKVKK (SEQ ID No. 44),
  - (l) a peptide comprising at least 5 contiguous amino acids from a peptide selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) -(k),
  - (m) a peptide which has an identity of at least 80 % to the amino acid sequence of peptide selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) - (l).
7. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method of claim 1, wherein the inhibitor binds to gp120.
  8. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method of Claim 1, wherein the host cell is a human cell.
  9. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method of Claim 1 for ~~the manufacture of a medicament for~~ the treatment of HIV-1 infections.
  10. (Currently Amended) ~~Use~~ A method of claim 9 for the treatment of infections by M-tropic and L-tropic HIV-1 strains.
  11. (Original) A method for identifying and/or characterizing a compound which inhibits the entry of HIV-1 into a host cell comprising
    - (i) providing at least one compound to be tested and
    - (ii) determining if the compound is capable of inhibiting the interaction between HIV-1 TAT protein and HIV-1 gp120.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein a plurality of compounds is tested in parallel or sequential.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein a compound library is tested.
14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, which is a cellular-based assay.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, which is a molecular-based assay.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein a compound which has been identified as an inhibitor or a compound desired therefrom is formulated as a pharmaceutical composition.
17. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising as an active ingredient at least one inhibitor of the interaction between HIV-1 TAT protein and HIV-1 gp 120 and optionally pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents and/or adjuvants.
18. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 17, wherein the inhibitor binds to TAT.
19. (Original) A peptide which is selected from:
  - (a) CTVECYFNCTPTC (SEQ ID No. 2)
  - (b) CPDRKKKVVMVC (SEQ ID No. 3)
  - (c) CSFNITTEIRDKVKK (SEQ ID No. 127)
  - (d) a peptide comprising at least 5 contiguous amino acids from a peptide, selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) - (c),
  - (e) a peptide which has a sequence identity of at least 80 % to the amino acid sequence of a peptide selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) - (d).

20. (Original) A peptide which is selected from:
- (a) RDK K K K K (SEQ ID No. 40),
  - (b) RDK K K K Q (SEQ ID No. 41),
  - (c) RDK K K K V (SEQ ID No. 42),
  - (d) RNK R K Q (SEQ ID No. 51),
  - (e) RD K T Q K (SEQ ID No. 52),
  - (f) DR K K K V (SEQ ID No. 43),
  - (g) K D K K E K (SEQ ID No. 45),
  - (h) R D K Q Q K (SEQ ID No. 49),
  - (i) R D K V Q K (SEQ ID No. 50),
  - (j) C S F N I T (SEQ ID No. 4),
  - (k) R D K V K K (SEQ ID No. 44),
  - (l) a peptide comprising at least 5 contiguous amino acids from a peptide selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) - (k),
  - (m) a peptide which has an identity of at least 80 % to the amino acid sequence of peptide selected from the group consisting of peptides (a) - (l).
21. (Original) Peptide combination comprising at least two peptides with the sequences shown in SEQ ID NO. 2-127.
22. (Original) Peptide combination of claim 21, wherein at least one disulfide bridge is present.